



# Music / VAPA



**Annual Report FY 2020-21**

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# Music/VAPA: Purpose and Mission

## **BSEP Measure E1 Purpose:**

“providing quality instructional programs in music and the visual and performing arts for elementary and middle school students...”

## **BUSD Music/VAPA Mission:**

Providing equitable access to a quality music education for all students.



# Program Summary

[Link to a helpful overview of VAPA/Music program...](#)

## Staff

- 19 Full-time Fully-credentialed music teachers
- 1 VAPA Technician
- 1 Family Engagement & Equity Specialist (SY21)
- 1 VAPA Supervisor

## Contracts and Expenses

- Instruments
- Repairs
- Contractors and Partnerships
- Arts Anchor / Arts Anchor Extension
- Theater budget 6-12

## Core Annual Activities

- 4th-8th grade Music Program
  - Staff TK-3 and 9-12 music
- Arts on the Run
- Performing Arts Showcase
- Many Concerts/trips
- Camp Cazadero
- BHS and Middle School Jazz play Yoshi's

# Annual Report Highlights

## Achievements

- *Our complete music schedule was up and running virtually via zoom starting day 1 of the school year.*
- *VAPA still provided thousands of instruments to all students through our contactless music distribution hub.*
- *Our first VAPA Family Engagement and Equity Specialist, Jay Whittington, was hired in January at 0.25 FTE.*
- *Our inquiry/equity work with Mills Teacher Scholars focuses on the theme of JOY in the virtual music classroom this year.*
- *Our music team pivoted in April to provide IN-Person music instruction to provide teacher preps for the “phase 2 reopening”.*

## Challenges

- *Many Partnerships/contractors were not able to continue their work.*
- *School-day and after-school Arts Anchor funding was largely unused due to virtual learning.*
- *Many instruments not returned / unaccounted for.*
- *Proposed digitization project still on hold, due to companies not being able to scan sheet music without destroying/compromising the original in the process.*
- *Our virtual music program was poorly attended due to a shift to the optional status of specialty classes.*

# Variations and Fund Balance Update

## Variations

Underspending due to distance learning and contractors could not come on campus., e.g Arts Anchor Funds, music coaches, field trips, and special events.

## Fund Balance Management

The intended uses of fund balance in 2021-22 and in subsequent years:

- 2021-22 and subsequent budgets will require a fund balance to provide same or increase level of services, e.g high school music coaches, additional of Equity Specialist, equity events and programs
- Additional uses include one time expenditures e.g., new instrument purchases.

# Current SY Update

## 2020-2021 Highlights:

- Whole music program up and running on the first day of school.
- Music-specific PPE and COVID safety regulations have been a huge undertaking.
- Expanded equity initiatives (in addition to our ongoing [VAPA Equity Plan](#))
- Rejuvenation of arts anchor programs, partnerships, and utilization of contractors

## Measurable Outcomes:

- VAPA will conduct annual participation audits similar to the 2015 and 2018 data gathering regarding students of color in music programs gr. 6-12. Audit will include disaggregated demographic data on Middle/High School participation is ongoing.
- Smart Goals have been used for equity based projects such as Chorus program development, providing afterschool arts K-5.
- Equity Plan implementation progress

# Equity Initiatives 2020-21 (and updates for 2021-22)

**DIVERSE HIRING/RECRUITING** *As the VAPA department continues to make equity its first priority, we continue to hire teachers that have a background/training in culturally responsive teaching as well as diverse musicological backgrounds. Our staff is continually becoming more diverse.* **Staff went from 4% to 40% POCs by spring 2021.**

**PARENT EQUITY GROUP** *In Spring 2019 a group called Berkeley Music Inclusion and Equity (BMIE) formed and has become more active and vibrant since March. The group is made up of parents, students, music teachers, and VAPA supervisor, with a primary goal of supporting families of color in a way that provides information on and access to BUSD VAPA's music program.* **BMIE is on hiatus, but a larger scale group is currently forming.**

**FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AND EQUITY SPECIALIST** *We have hired a VAPA Equity Specialist, Janeare Whittington, whose job is analogous to that of the OFEE staff, but will meet specific needs of the Music Department and report to VAPA Supervisor. Liaison to students/families of color, assist with communication, provide support and training for staff.* **FTE went from .25 to 1.0 in 2021-22.**

**EXPANDING SECONDARY BUDGET** *New budget items come into effect this year that address specific equity issues: An arts budget for BHS African American Studies (field trips/supplies), building reserve for future digital music lab at BHS, expanded drama materials budget gr. 6-12.* **2021-22 budget has many more equity features.**

**CULTURAL COMPETENCY PD** *Professional Development for music teachers deepens this year as many new books are released for the first time that directly address equity/social justice issues in the music classroom. Book groups start semester 2 in weekly staff meetings.* **2021-22 P.D. includes guest speakers, etc.**